Why should you want? Behold, the earth hath
roots [6];
Within this mile break forth a hundred springs: The oaks bear mast, the briars scarlet hips; The bounteous housewife, nature, on each bush Lays her full mess before you. Want? why want? 1 *THIEF.* We cannot live on grass, on berries^
water, As beasts,
and birds, and fishes.
TIM. Nor on the beasts themselves, the birds,
and fishes ;
You must eat men. Yet thanks I must you con[7], That you are thieves profess'd; that you work not In holier shapes : for there is boundless theft In limited professions[8]. Rascal thieves, Here's gold: Go, suck the subtle blood of the
grape, Till the high fever seeth your blood to froth,

Farmer, however, with no small probability, would point the passage as follows:

"Your greatest want is, you want much.
Of meat " Why should you want ? Behold,
&c.'* STEEVENS.

[6] — the earth hath roots; &c.]

Vile olus, et duris haerentia mora
rubetis, Pugnantis stomachi
composuere faraem :
Flumine vicino stultus sitit.

I do not suppose these to be imitations, but only to be similar thoughts on similar occasions. JOHNSON.

[7] — Yet THANKS I must you CON,] To *con thanks* is a very common expression among our old dramatick writers. So, in The Story of King Darius, 1565, an interlude :

" Yea and well said, I *con you* no thanke."

Again, in Pierce Pennilesse his Supplication to the Devil, by Nash,, 1592: " It is well done to practise my wit; but I believe our lord will *con thee little thanks* for it." STEEVENS.

[8] In LIMITED professions,] *Limited, for legal.* WARBURTON.

Regular, orderly, professions. So, in Macbeth:

** For, 'tis my *limited* service."

i. e. my appointed service, prescribed by the necessary duty and *rules* of my office. MALONE.